	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/711,945	TRAN, TUAN
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stefano Karmis	~~3624~~ 3693	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *Amendment filed 09 November 2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,5-7,9-14 and 21.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the

          International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

       1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

      Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *9/27/07* .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____.

ALLOWANCE

1.   Claims 1, 5-7, 9-12 and 21 are amended. Claims 2-4, 8, 15-20 and 22 are cancelled.

Therefore claims 1, 5-7, 9-14 and 21 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Mr. Michael Markerson.

The application has been amended as follows:

1.   A system for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising:

a framework engine configured to enable a market maker to develop a request for

transaction framework for a particular market, wherein the framework engine creates the request

for transaction framework for the particular market based on attribute parameters selected and

defined by the market maker; and

a request for transaction engine to manage a request for transaction using the request for

transaction framework, and configured to enable an organization within the particular market to

prepare a request relating to a resource requirement and select a response relating to the resource

requirement, including selecting a response relating to the resource requirement by sorting a set

of received responses based on price when two or more prices in the received responses differ by more than a preset amount and when the prices in the received responses do not differ by more than the preset amount, sorting the set of received responses based on another predetermined attribute in the response, wherein the preset amount is set based on input to the request for transaction means from a user of the system, wherein the request for transaction engine comprises a request engine, a response engine, and an analysis engine;

wherein the analysis engine enables an organization to perform an analysis framework on a plurality of responses based on an extensible number of attributes, the analysis framework available to the organization being determined by the market maker using the framework engine and the extensible number of attributes comprising a set of attributes from an existing set of attributes and at least one new attribute defined by a user of the system and not present in the existing set of attributes, wherein the at least one new attribute is defined by setting an attribute value constraint defining at least one of selectable default values for the at least one new attribute, value ranges for the at least one new attribute, and a mandatory or optional setting for the at least one new attribute;

wherein the request comprises structured attribute information relating to the resource requirement, the structured attribute information being defined by the market maker using the framework engine.

Claims 2-4 (canceled)

5.   The system of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the request engine comprises a request for proposal

engine and a request for quote engine.

6..   The system of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the analysis engine enables a plurality of providers to

perform an analysis framework on a plurality of requests based on an extensible number of

attributes, wherein the analysis framework available to the plurality of providers is determined

by the market maker using the framework engine.

7.   The system of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the response engine enables the plurality of providers to

prepare and transmit a plurality of responses to the request.

Claim 8 (canceled)

9.   The system of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein;

        the organization transmits information to and receives information from the request

engine and the analysis engine based on a first language associated with an organization user;

and

        each of the providers transmit information to and receive information from the response

engine and the analysis engine based on a second language associated with a provider user.

10.   The system of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein;

the organization transmits information to and receives information from the request

engine and the analysis engine based on a first currency associated with an organization user;

and

each of the providers transmit information to and receive information from the response

engine and the analysis engine based on a first currency associated with a provider user.

11.   The system of claim 3 1, wherein;

the organization transmits information to and receives information from the request

engine and the analysis engine based on a first unit of measure associated with an organization

user; and

each of the providers transmit information to and receive information from the response

engine and the analysis engine based on a second unit of measure associated with a provider

user.

12.   A computer implemented method for developing and using a request for transaction

framework comprising:

developing an electronic request for transaction framework that establishes a set of

relevant attributes for a particular market, the set of relevant attributes being selected from a set

of existing market attributes based on input from a market maker and the set of relevant

attributes including at least one user-defined attribute not present in the set of existing market

attributes, wherein the at least one user-defined attribute is assigned an attribute analysis

framework option defining allowable sorting or filtering for the at least one user-defined

attribute;

receiving a request for transaction, wherein an organization in the particular market

indicates a resource requirement by indicating a set of values for the set of relevant attributes;

receiving a plurality of responses to the request, wherein a plurality of providers for the

particular market develop the plurality of responses by indicating a set of values for the set of

relevant attributes;

determining a selected response by the organization based on the set of values for the set

of relevant variables provided in the plurality of responses wherein the determining of the

selected response further comprises sorting the plurality of responses based on price when two or

more prices in the plurality of responses differ by more than a preset amount and when the prices

in the plurality of responses do not differ by more than the preset amount, sorting the plurality of

responses based on a predetermined attribute in each of the plurality of responses, wherein the

preset amount is set based on user input; and

analyzing the plurality of responses based on a set of attributes selected by a user, the set

of user-selectable attributes being extensible by the user. an extensible number of attributes, the

analysis framework available to the organization being determined by the market maker using

the framework engine and the extensible number of attributes comprising a set of attributes from

an existing set of attributes and at least one new attribute defined by a user of the system and not

present in the existing set of attributes, wherein the at least one new attribute is defined by setting

an attribute value constraint defining at least one of selectable default values for the at least one

new attribute, value ranges for the at least one new attribute, and a mandatory or optional setting

for the at least one new attribute

13.   The method of claim 12, wherein the request comprises structured attribute information

relating to a resource requirement.

14.   The method of claim 12, further comprising:

        analyzing, by the plurality of providers, a plurality of pending requests based on an

extensible number of user-selected attributes.

Claims 15-20 (canceled)

21.   A system for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising:

        framework engine means for enabling a market maker to develop a request for

transaction framework for a particular market, wherein the framework engine creates the request

for transaction framework for the particular market based on attribute parameters selected and

defined by the market maker; and

        request for transaction means for managing a request for transaction using the request for

transaction framework, and enabling an organization within the particular market to prepare a

request for transaction relating to a resource requirement and select a response relating to the

resource requirement including sorting a set of received responses based on price when two or

more prices in the received responses differ by more than about a preset amount and when the

prices in the received responses do not differ by more than ~~about~~ the preset amount, sorting the set of received responses based on another predetermined attribute in the response, wherein the preset amount is set based on input to the request for transactions means from a user of the system; and

analysis engine means for enabling an organization to perform an analysis framework on a plurality of responses based on an extensible number of attributes, the analysis framework available to the organization being determined by the market maker using the framework engine and the extensible number of attributes comprising a set of attributes from an existing set of attributes and at least one new attribute defined by a user of the system and not present in the existing set of attributes, wherein the at least one new attribute is defined by setting an attribute value constraint defining at least one of selectable default values for the at least one new attribute, value ranges for the at least one new attribute, and a mandatory or optional setting for the at least one new attribute;

wherein the request comprises structured attribute information relating to the resource requirement, the structured attribute information being defined by the market maker using the framework engine.

Claim 22 (canceled)

Allowable Subject Matter

3.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention defines s system for developing and using a request for transaction framework. The system enables market makers to develop a request for transaction framework for a particular market based on attribute parameters selected and defined by the market maker. The closest prior art, Korhammer et al. U.S. Patent 6,278,982 teaches a system for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising: a framework engine configured to enable a market maker to develop a request for transaction framework for a particular market, wherein the framework engine creates the request for transaction framework for the particular market based on attribute parameters selected and defined by the market maker (column 5, lines 46-57); a request for transaction engine to manage a request for transaction using the request for transaction framework, and configured to enable an organization within the particular market to prepare a request relating to a resource requirement and select a response relating to the resource requirement, a response engine, and an analysis engine (column 10, lines 1-54 and column 12, lines 8-30); wherein the analysis engine enables an organization to perform an analysis framework on a plurality of responses based on a number of attributes, the analysis framework available to the organization being determined by the market maker using the framework engine and the number of attributes comprising a set of attributes from an existing set of attributes (column 7, line 57 thru column 8, line 27); wherein the request comprises structured attribute information relating to the resource requirement, the structured attribute information being defined by the market maker using the framework engine (column 10, lines 1-54 and Figures 8 and Figure 9).

The prior art of record fails to teach a system for developing and using a request for transaction framework comprising: a framework engine configured to enable a market maker to develop a request for transaction framework for a particular market, wherein the framework engine creates the request for transaction framework for the particular market based on attribute parameters selected and defined by the market maker;

selecting a response relating to a resource requirement including selecting a response relating to the resource requirement by sorting a set of received responses based on price when two or more prices in the received responses differ by more than a preset amount and when the prices in the received responses do not differ by more than the preset amount, sorting the set of received responses based on another predetermined attribute in the response, wherein the preset amount is set based on input to the request for transaction means from a user of the system; and

performing an analysis framework on a plurality of responses based on an extensible number of attributes, the analysis framework available to the organization being determined by the market maker using the framework engine and the extensible number of attributes comprising a set of attributes from an existing set of attributes and at least one new attribute defined by a user of the system and not present in the existing set of attributes, wherein the at least one new attribute is defined by setting an attribute value constraint defining at least one of selectable default values for the at least one new attribute, value ranges for the at least one new attribute, and a mandatory or optional setting for the at least one new attribute. These elements alone and in combination with all of the other elements of the claims are not taught or fairly suggested in the prior art of record. For this reason claim 1 is deemed allowable over the prior

art. Claims 12 and 21 are substantially similar to claim 1 and are allowed following the same

reasoning. Claims 5-7, 9-11, 13, 14 and 21 are allowed based on their dependency.

4.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for
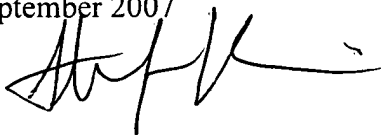
Allowance."

Conclusion

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Stefano Karmis whose telephone number is (571) 272-6744. The

examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Respectfully Submitted
Stefano Karmis
27 September 2007

HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER